

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/614,154

Applicant(s)

KIM, EUI SUK

Examiner

Art Unit

Quan Tra

2816

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Application filed 07/07/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Randall G. Rueth on August 11, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, lines 9, "the output signal" has been changed to --an output signal--.

Line 13, "the power supply" has been changed to --a power supply--.

Line 18, "is boosted according" has been changed to --responsive--.

Line 19, "the boosting" has been changed to --boosting--.

Claim 2, line 4, "a given time" has been changed to --the given time--.

Line 5, "a reference" has been changed to --a sub-reference--.

Claim 3, line 4, "the potential" has been changed to --a potential--.

Lines 5-6, "the ground" has been changed to --a ground--.

Lines 10-11, "an inverted signal of the address transition detection signal" has been changed to --the inverted signal--.

Claim 4, line 4, "the output terminal" has been changed to --an output terminal of the sensing circuit--, and PMPS has been changed to --PMOS--.

Line 6, "the output terminal" has been changed to --the output terminal of the sensing circuit--.

Claim 6, line 5, "the output signal" has been changed to --an output signal--.

Line 7, "the output signal" has been changed to --an output signal--.

Line 9, "a Low level" has been changed to --the low level--.

Line 12, "the output signal" has been changed to --an output signal--.

Claim 7, line 4, "the potential of the first node" has been changed to --a potential of a first node--.

Lines 5-6, "the ground" has been changed to --a ground--.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-7 are allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a boosting circuit, such as figure 1) having a sensing circuit (13) for sensing a flash memory cell (M11) according to the reference voltage and the boosting voltage of the first boosting means; a switching circuit (14) for applying the boosting voltage of the first boosting circuit or a power supply voltage (VCC) depending on the boosting voltage of the first boosting circuit and the output signal of the sensing circuit.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

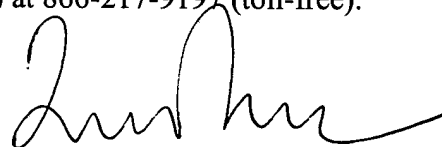
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quan Tra whose telephone number is 571-272-1755. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M..

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Quan Tra', with a stylized, flowing script.

Quan Tra  
Patent Examiner

August 11, 2004